



**Protest Under 37 C.F.R. 1.291(a) and 291(b)**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: W. Jeffrey Chandler et al  
Serial No. 09/834,175  
Publication No. US2002/0032599  
Publication date March 14, 2002  
Filed: April 12, 2001  
For: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR VENTURE ACCELERATION

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

The undersigned, having reviewed the specification and the claims of the above identified patent application publication, and having formed the opinion that the subject matter of said publication is not patentable in view of certain prior art references and other information, and as a consequence thereof being further of the opinion that a grant by the United States Patent and Trademark Office of a patent to the applicant of the above-identified patent publication would be contrary to the public interest, does hereby protest the publication or application pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.291(a).

Attached hereto in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.291(a) is proof of service of the protest on W. Jeffrey Chandler, applicant of the above-identified patent publication.

Submitted herewith in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.291(b) are: (1) a listing on the accompanying form PTO-1449 of the publications and other information relied upon; (2) a concise explanation of the relevance of each of the listed items; and (3) a copy of each publication, Internet web page or other items of information in written form or at least portions thereof relied upon.

**The Subject Matter of the Publication**

*The Abstract*

U.S. Serial No. 09/834,175; Publication No. US2002/0032599; filed April 12, 2001, published on March 14, 2002 is directed to a SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR VENTURE ACCELERATION (See Exhibit AK).

The Abstract states: "A web-centric application which acts as a beacon for an entrepreneurial and venture capital community or series of communities that offers a plurality of interactive products that primarily profile, map and match needs to capabilities for new and improved methods for venture incubation and acceleration. A set of interactive business planning and management tools, and, access to capital, investments, strategic alliances, and mergers and acquisitions that offer electronic access and downloadable hard copy within a private self-contained profiling system that maximizes business efficiencies. A method for the formulation of a virtual local community

THIRD PARTY  
SUBMISSION  
HAS BEEN  
DISCARDED.  
SEE  
ATTACHMENT  
SM

## RULE 1.99 CHECKLIST

APPLICATION NUMBER:

**09/834,175**  
**3/14/02**

FILING DATE OF SUBMISSION:

**10/14/03**

PUBLICATION DATE OF APPLICATION:

Submission filed within 2 mo. of pub. date or prior to the Notice of Allowance, whichever is earlier (or statement explaining why it could not have been sent earlier?)

YES

☐

NO

☒

Is the application identified?

YES

☒

NO

☐

Application still pending?

YES

☒

NO

☐

Is the Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(p) paid?

YES

☐

NO

☐

Is the submission limited to patent/publications?

YES

☐

NO

☒

Is there a list of the Patents/publications which include the publication dates?

YES

☒

NO

☒

Are copies (or at least the relevant passages) of the patents/publications included?

YES

☒

NO

☐

Is the submission limited to 10 patents/publications?

YES

☐

NO

☒

Are English translations provided if foreign?

YES

☐

NO

☐

Does the submission avoid providing any explanation of the patents/publications? (This would include markings or highlights on the patents/publications.)

YES

☐

NO

☒

Has service on the applicant been made as provided for under 37 CFR 1.248(b)?

YES

☒

NO

☒

If any of the above check boxes are checked in the negative, the submission is at least partially not in compliance with the requirements of 37 CFR 1.99 and needs to be at least partially discarded. Any part of the submission that is in compliance should be retained. Any marked up copies of patents/publications can be replaced by clean copies. If the submission is to be wholly or partially discarded, the cover letter or transmittal of the submission should be retained in the file with the notation, "The party submission has been (partially, if so) discarded", and should include the reason(s) why at least a portion of the submission has been discarded. There should be initials of the reviewer and a date reviewed included on the retained cover letter or transmittal sheet. If all boxes are checked affirmatively, the submission is acceptable under 37 CFR 1.99 and should be forwarded to the examiner of record. No communication should be sent to the 3rd party making the submission. See MPEP 610.



**STEVEN N. MEYERS**  
**SPECIAL PROGRAM EXAMINER**  
**TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3600**